

The International Tracing Service Collections and Holocaust Scholarship

May 12–13, 2014

Program



IN CONJUNCTION WITH

ITS
International Tracing Service
Service International de Recherches
Internationaler Suchdienst

PRESENTED BY

UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
MUSEUM

JACK, JOSEPH AND MORTON MANDEL
CENTER FOR ADVANCED HOLOCAUST STUDIES

This conference has been made possible by the support of Betty-Jean and David Bavar, K. Peter and Yvonne R. Wagner, and the Harris Family Foundation.

This conference has been supported in part by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.



ועידת התביעות
Claims Conference
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany, was, until November 2007, the largest closed archive in the world related to the Holocaust, forced labor, and Nazi persecution. Recently inscribed into the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Memory of the World Register, the ITS collection has opened important new potential for understanding the Holocaust and other Nazi-era crimes. ITS documents, which were used for decades principally for tracing purposes, provide opportunities for a better understanding of a broad range of topics related to persecution, incarceration, forced labor, mass murder, displacement, resettlement, and the legacies of these experiences as a result of World War II. Jointly organized with the ITS in Bad Arolsen, this conference brings together scholars who have conducted significant new and original research using the collections since the opening of the archive.



Mauthausen survivor and Museum volunteer Martin Weiss discusses his personal documents found in the ITS collections with Barbara Glück, director of the Mauthausen Memorial and the 2013 Ben and Zelda Cohen Fellow at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. At the conference, Glück will present her paper *Biographies of Former Prisoners at Mauthausen and its Subcamps*.
US Holocaust Memorial Museum

The International Tracing Service Collections and Holocaust Scholarship

May 12–13, 2014

Helena Rubinstein Auditorium

International Conference

MONDAY, MAY 12, 2014

10 a.m.

Welcome

Paul A. Shapiro

Director, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center
for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC

Rebecca Boehling

Director, International Tracing Service, Bad Arolsen,
Germany, and Professor of History, University of
Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland

**10:45 a.m.–
12:15 p.m.**

PANEL I

In the Midst of Camps and Forced Labor I

MODERATOR

Martin Dean

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

PRESENTERS

Adam Seipp

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
*On the Land: Forced Labor, Wartime Society, and the
ITS Archive*

Christine Schmidt

Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust
& Genocide, London, United Kingdom
*Women behind Barbed Wire: Hungarian Jewish Women
Slave Laborers in the Nazi Camps*

Dan Stone

Royal Holloway, University of London, London,
United Kingdom

*Discovering Christianstadt: Using the ITS Collections to
Gain Insights into a Women's Sub-Camp of Gross-Rosen*

12:15–1:15 p.m. Break

1:15–2:45 p.m.

PANEL II

**Postwar Testimony, Memory, and Representations
of Trauma in the ITS**

MODERATOR

Diane Afoumado

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

PRESENTERS

Barbara Glück

Mauthausen Memorial, Mauthausen, Austria
*Biographies of Former Prisoners at Mauthausen and
its Subcamps*

Susanne Urban

International Tracing Service, Bad Arolsen, Germany
*"My only Document is the Number on my Hand":
Early Testimonies in the ITS Archive*

Elizabeth Anthony

Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, and
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC
Representations of Sexual Violence in ITS Documentation

2:45–3 p.m. Break

3–4:30 p.m.

PANEL III

Who is Disposable? Inclusion and Exclusion in Nazi Germany

MODERATOR

Rebecca Boehling

International Tracing Service, Bad Arolsen, Germany,
and University of Maryland Baltimore County,
Baltimore, Maryland

PRESENTERS

Akim Jah

Potsdam, Germany

*The Card Catalog of the Reichsvereinigung der Juden in
Deutschland* (Reich Association of Jews in Germany)

Aleksandra Loewenau

Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, United Kingdom

*Malaria Experiments on Prisoners at Dachau Concentration
Camp: A Revised Study*

Amy Carney

Pennsylvania State University, Behrend Campus,
Erie, Pennsylvania

*Caring for the Family: The SS “Family Community” in the
ITS Lebensborn* (Fountain of Life) *Files*

4:30–7 p.m.

Break

7–8:30 p.m.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Suzanne Brown-Fleming

Director, Visiting Scholar Programs, Jack, Joseph
and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust
Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

“Our Mothers, Our Fathers”: *One German Town in the
Records of the ITS*

Reception to follow

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014

**9–10:30 a.m. Panel IV
Brutality in the Last Year of the War, 1944–45**

MODERATOR

Suzanne Brown-Fleming
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

PRESENTERS

Michael McConnell
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee
*Violence inside Germany's Regional Prison System during
Nazism's End Phase*

Idit Gil
The Open University of Israel, Ra'anana, Israel
*Jewish Slave Laborers from Radom in the Last Year of the
War: Social Aspects of Exploitation*

Jörg Skriebeleit
Flossenbürg Concentration Camp Memorial,
Flossenbürg, Germany
*Confrontation—Reburial—Identification—
De-Contextualization: Memorializing the Death Marches
and their Victims*

**10:30–
10:45 a.m. Break**

**10:45 a.m.–
12:15 p.m. PANEL V
Survivors and the Political Landscape of Postwar Europe**

MODERATOR

Paul Shapiro
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

PRESENTERS

Jennifer Rodgers

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Archive of Horrors, Archive of Hope: The International Tracing Service in the Postwar Era

Ruth Balint

University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
The Use and Abuse of History: Displaced Persons in the ITS Archive

Laura Hilton

Muskingum University, New Concord, Ohio
The Experiences and Impact of the Stateless in the Postwar Period

12:15–1:45 p.m. Break

**1:45–3:15 p.m. PANEL VI
In the Midst of Camps and Forced Labor II**

MODERATOR

Joseph Robert White

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

PRESENTERS

Alexandra Lohse

American University, Washington, DC, and
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC
The Nazi Forced Labor Program and ITS Documentation

Alexandre Doulut

University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France
From Drancy to Cosel? One Transport in the ITS Archives

Marta Simó

Autonomous University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
ITS, Spain, and the Holocaust

3:15–3:30 p.m. Break

**3:30–5 p.m. FINAL ROUNDTABLE
ITS Archives and the Future of Holocaust Research**

DISCUSSANTS

Rebecca Boehling

International Tracing Service, Bad Arolsen, Germany,
and University of Maryland Baltimore County,
Baltimore, Maryland

Johannes-Dieter Steinert

University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton,
United Kingdom

Paul Weindling

Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, United Kingdom

Paul Shapiro

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington, DC

SPEAKERS

Diane Afoumado is chief of ITS research at the Holocaust Survivors and Victims Resource Center at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She is the author of *L'affiche antisémite en France sous l'Occupation* (2008; The Antisemitic Poster in France under Occupation) and *Exil impossible: l'errance des Juifs du paquebot St-Louis* (2005; Impossible Exile: The Wandering of the SS *Saint Louis*), and is a contributing author to the *Jahrbuch des International Tracing Service* (2013; Yearbook of the International Tracing Service).

Elizabeth Anthony is Curt C. and Else Silberman ITS staff scholar at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She is also a doctoral candidate in history at Clark University, where she is completing her dissertation, "Return Home: Holocaust Survivors Reestablishing Lives in Postwar Vienna."

Ruth Balint is senior lecturer in history at the University of New South Wales. She is the author of *Troubled Waters: Borders, Boundaries and Possession in the Timor Sea* (2005).

Rebecca Boehling is director of the International Tracing Service. She is currently on leave from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, where she is professor of history and was founding director of the Drescher Center for the Humanities. She is the co-author of *Life and Loss in the Shadow of the Holocaust: A Jewish Family's Untold Story* (2011) and *A Question of Priorities: Democratic Reforms and Economic Recovery in Postwar Germany* (1996).

Suzanne Brown-Fleming is director of Visiting Scholar Programs at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She is the author of *The Holocaust and Catholic Conscience: Cardinal Aloisius Muench and the Guilt Question in Germany* (2006).

Amy Carney is assistant professor of history at Pennsylvania State University, Behrend Campus. She is currently preparing for publication her research exploring the notion of fatherhood and family in the SS.

Martin Dean is applied research scholar at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. He is the author of *Robbing the Jews* (2010)

and *Collaboration in the Holocaust* (2000), and editor of the Museum's *Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933–1945*, Vol. 2, *Ghettos in German-Occupied Eastern Europe* (2012).

Alexandre Doulut is a doctoral student in history at the University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne. He is an associated scholar at the Musée-mémorial du camp de Rivesaltes and the author of three books on the Shoah in southern France.

Idit Gil is on the faculty of the Department of Political Science at the Open University of Israel in the masters of democratic studies program. She is currently conducting research on the wartime experiences of one transport of Jewish laborers from Radom, Poland.

Barbara Glück is director of the Mauthausen Memorial in Austria and is currently in residence at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, as a Ben and Zelda Cohen Fellow. In her role as director, she headed the first comprehensive redesign of the Mauthausen Memorial in 40 years, including both of the memorial's new exhibitions, *The Mauthausen Concentration Camp 1938–1945* and *The Crime Scenes of Mauthausen—Searching for Traces*, which opened to the public in May 2013.

Laura J. Hilton is professor of history at Muskingum University in New Concord, Ohio. Her most recent publications have focused on the black market in postwar Germany and cultural nationalism in displaced persons camps.

Akim Jah is a freelance lecturer and researcher in Berlin, where he studied political science at the Free University and completed his dissertation on the deportations of the Jews from Berlin.

Aleksandra Loewenau is a postdoctoral research assistant for the project “Subjects’ Narratives of Medical Research in Europe, ca. 1940–2001” at Oxford Brookes University, where she graduated with a PhD in history of medicine in 2012. Her current project relates to narratives of victims of medical crimes under National Socialism.

Alexandra Lohse is a researcher for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's *Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933–1945*, and a doctoral candidate in history at American University, where she is completing her dissertation “‘In spite of all that’: War and Popular Opinion in Nazi Germany, 1943–1945.”

Michael McConnell is a doctoral candidate in history at the University of Tennessee, where he is completing his dissertation, “Home to the Reich: The Influence of the Nazi Occupation of Europe on Violence inside Germany, 1943–45.” His research investigates the influence of the Nazi occupation of Europe on domestic policing on the German home front at the end of World War II.

Jennifer L. Rodgers is a doctoral candidate in history at the University of Pennsylvania, where she is completing her dissertation, “From the ‘Archive of Horrors’ to the ‘Shop Window of Democracy’: The International Tracing Service, 1942–2013.” She is currently a fellow at the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies of the Free University in Berlin.

Christine Schmidt is the International Tracing Service Archive researcher at The Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust & Genocide. She also serves as an adjunct instructor of Holocaust history and pedagogy for various universities and colleges, including Gratz College in Melrose Park, Pennsylvania.

Adam R. Seipp is associate professor and director of graduate studies in history at Texas A&M University. He is the author of *Strangers in the Wild Place: Refugees, Americans, and a German Town, 1945–52* (2013).

Paul Shapiro is director of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. In addition to establishing the Mandel Center as one of the world’s preeminent Holocaust research centers, he played an instrumental role in opening the International Tracing Service archive and making its contents available to Holocaust survivors and scholars around the world.

Marta Simó is a doctoral candidate in sociology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, where she is completing her dissertation, “Spaniards and their Encounter with the Holocaust.”

Jörg Skriebeleit is director of the Flossenbürg concentration camp memorial site. He is the author of *Erinnerungsort Flossenbürg: Akteure, Zäsuren, Geschichtsbilder* (2009; Place of Remembrance Flossenbürg: Actors, Caesuras, Images of History) and co-author of *Das Aussenlager Bayreuth des KZ Flossenbürg: Wieland Wagner und Bodo Lafferentz im “Institut für physikalische Forschung”* (2003; The Bayreuth Satellite Camp of Flossenbürg: Wieland Wagner and Bodo Lafferentz in the “Institute for Physical Research”).

Johannes-Dieter Steinert is professor of modern European history and migration studies at the University of Wolverhampton. He is the author of *Deportation und Zwangsarbeit: Polnische und sowjetische Kinder im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland und im besetzten Osteuropa 1939–1945* (2013; *Deportation and Forced Labor: Polish and Soviet Children in Nazi Germany and Occupied Eastern Europe 1939–1945*) and co-editor of both volumes of *Survivors of Nazi Persecution in Europe after the Second World War: Landscapes after Battle* (2011 and 2010).

Dan Stone is professor of modern history at Royal Holloway, University of London. He is the author or editor of 14 books including *Goodbye to All That? The Story of Europe since 1945* (2014) and *Histories of the Holocaust* (2010). He is currently writing a book on the liberation of the Nazi camps for Yale University Press and *The Concentration Camp: A Very Short Introduction* for Oxford University Press.

Susanne Urban is head of historical research and education at the International Tracing Service and editor of the *Jahrbuch des International Tracing Service* (Yearbook of the International Tracing Service). Her research focuses on displaced persons, child survivors, and early testimonies. She is the author of *Surviving in Fear* (2013), *Rettet die Kinder. Die Geschichte der Jugend-Aliyah 1933–2003* (2003; *Save the Children: The History of Youth Aliyah 1933–2003*), and *Der Philo-Verlag 1919–1938. Abwehr und Selbstbehauptung* (2001; *The Philo Publishing House 1919–1938: Defense and Assertiveness*).

Paul Weindling is Wellcome Trust Research Professor in the History of Medicine at Oxford Brookes University. He is the author of the forthcoming *Victims and Survivors of Nazi Human Experiments: Science and Suffering in the Holocaust*, as well as *John W. Thompson: Psychiatrist in the Shadow of the Holocaust* (2010) and *Nazi Medicine and the Nuremberg Trials: From Medical War Crimes to Informed Consent 1945–55* (2004).

Joseph Robert White is a researcher for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's *Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933–1945*, for which he is also the editor of Vol. 3, *The Camps and Ghettos of European Regimes aligned with Nazi Germany*. He holds a PhD in modern European history from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Fostering Scholarship and Research

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum serves as this country's national institution for Holocaust education and remembrance. The Museum's Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies supports scholarship and publications in the field of Holocaust studies, promotes the growth of Holocaust studies at American universities, seeks to foster strong relationships between American and international scholars, collects Holocaust-related archival documents worldwide, and organizes programs to ensure the ongoing training of future generations of scholars. In carrying out its mission, the Mandel Center works together with the Academic Committee of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

Cover: This photo shows the processing unit of the International Tracing Service. These shelves, on both sides of a long hallway, contain the records of more than 61,000 inquiries. *Richard Ebrlich for US Holocaust Memorial Museum*

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